

Reports on the results of the N.Oc. “Prof. W. Besnard” expeditions to the southern coast of Brazil under the Revizee Program: Chirostylidae and Galatheidae (Crustacea: Decapoda: Anomura)

GUSTAVO A. S. DE MELO-FILHO

Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie, Faculdade de Ciências Biológicas, Exatas e Experimentais, Rua da Consolação, nº 896, 01302-907, São Paulo, SP, Brasil.

Abstract

The distribution patterns of the species of the family Chirostylidae and Galatheidae collected under the Revizee Program (Living Resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone) off the Brazilian southern coast are analyzed. The study area extended from the Cape São Tomé (Rio de Janeiro; 22°00'S) south to Chui (Rio Grande do Sul; 34°30'S). The collections were made during several cruises of N.Oc. “Prof. W. Besnard” between December 1997 and April 1998 over the shelf and slope (60–808 m). One species of the genus *Agononida*, seven species of the genus *Munida*, one species of *Munidopsis* and one of *Uroptychus* were collected.

Key words: Chirostylidae, Galatheidae, *Agononida*, *Munida*, *Munidopsis*, *Uroptychus*, Brazilian southern coast

Introduction

The Exclusive Economic Zone (ZEE) is a recent concept of maritime territory introduced by the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The ZEE granted to each coastal country the right of exclusive sustainable use of the marine resources within the 200 nautical mile economic zone.

Following the recommendation of UNCLOS, in 1994 the Brazilian government established the national Revizee Program (Living Resources in the Exclusive Economic Zone). This program had several specific objectives to be accomplished within 10 years. These included the estimation of the distribution, seasonal variation, abundance and potential sustainable yield of fishery stocks; obtaining general information on the structure and dynamics of the marine ecosystem that the living resources inhabit; the evaluation and monitoring of the potential sustainable yield and prospects for future exploitation of